

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PLICANTS:

M. Endo et al.

EXAMINER:

V. Chang

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CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10*

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I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on this date January 8, 2004 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing Label Number <u>EV 342587979 US</u> addressed to Box: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-145

Sir:

Preliminary Amendment

The following is in response to the Office Action mailed July 9, 2003, in the above referenced application.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

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